

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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## RAILROAD EMPLOYES LAY THEIR CASE BEFORE PRESIDENT WILSON; STRIKE MAY BE AVERTED

### ONE JOY-RIDER KILLED AND SEVEN INJURED AS STOLEN CAR TURNS OVER

Owner Ill in Bed, Former Chauffeur Takes Machine on Fatal Trip—Eugene Boyd of This City Dies After Party of 10 Is Hurled From Auto Into Stone Wall.

As the result of the theft from his garage of 136 Capitol avenue, of the big touring car of David H. Cotter, the main street cafe proprietor, and a wild joy ride in which 10 colored men and women participated, Eugene Boyd, aged 23, of 351 Lexington avenue, is dead in New Haven, another is seriously injured in the same hospital, and six others required medical treatment.

In the Milford town court John Balfour, of 1305 Stratford avenue, formerly a chauffeur in the employ of Cotter, accused of taking the car without permission, is held in \$2,000 bonds for appearance in the criminal term of the superior court to answer a charge of manslaughter.

Tony Barrows, who gave his address as 124 Nichols street, Bridgeport, aged 22, is confined to New Haven hospital with a broken collarbone and internal injuries.

According to the story of members of the party after the accident, there had been a meeting of the colored Odd Fellows on Housatonic avenue Saturday night. Balfour, having ascertained that David Cotter was ill in bed, took the car from the garage and invited the big party for a ride.

They drove to New Haven and indulged in a dinner at a Dixwell avenue restaurant. They remained until 4:45 a. m. when the drive homeward began at a point near the east end of Milford, when it is reported that as they were going at a high rate of speed, the car swerved into the state highway fence. Two posts were rooted from the ground. The car seemed to jump into the air and turned over,

hurling itself and occupants into the fence on the opposite side of the road. Boyd and Barrows were crushed beneath the sides of the car. The others were hurled free from the wreckage. Men and women lay in the roadway in a confused mass when another car came along. Some were unconscious and others partly conscious when medical aid was summoned from Milford. Balfour was placed under arrest at once by the Milford authorities and the two severely injured men were rushed to New Haven.

At St. Raphael's hospital another Bridgeporter, Alfred F. Roberts, aged 25, living at 57 Smith street, was admitted for injuries in an accident occurring in New Haven at about the same hour. This led to a report that he was in the car with the colored people. Investigation proves that he was struck and knocked down by an automobile on Prospect street. His condition today is improving, injuries to his right thigh healing well.

Boyd died at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon from crushed ribs and other internal injuries. The car is said to be a complete wreck.

Cotter, who has been confined to his home for several days under a physician's care, says that Balfour was formerly employed by him as chauffeur and that permission to take the car was not granted.

Boyd was secretary of the Keystone Social club, formerly known as the Royal Social club. The police say that he formerly bore a criminal record but that he had reformed during the last few years. His body is being brought to this city for burial.

### MISSION HERE IS TO MAKE LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT EFFICIENT, SAYS SOPHIAN

That his mission in Bridgeport is to improve the general sanitation of the city, to organize the health department into an efficient body and to supervise generally the health of the city, is the declaration of Mr. Abraham Sophian, who is conducting the campaign here against infantile paralysis.

In a statement to The Farmer, Dr. Sophian points out that the fight against infantile paralysis is only incidental to his work. His real fight here, he asserts, is against disease in general.

The statement follows: "To begin with I want to say that I appreciate the assistance given the health department by the press. Our campaign has been aided materially by the co-operation of all the papers. This statement is not intended to bring about controversy but rather to explain the efforts of the health department to prevent and control the spread of all contagious disease. I fear that the editorial of the 11th instant might create a feeling of misunderstanding and possibly in that way defeat the very efforts which the city, to organize the health department into an efficient body and to supervise generally the health of the city, is the declaration of Mr. Abraham Sophian, who is conducting the campaign here against infantile paralysis.

"I might state that when the commission of health interviewed me in New York city, they outlined their mission as one not only intended to control the spread of infantile paralysis, but also to organize the health department so that in the future adequate measures could be carried out for the prevention and control of all contagious diseases. My efforts here have been so directed to the creation of an organization which would be permanent.

"I fear that the present danger which is a very real one, might be minimized as a result of the editorial. A contrast was made between the danger of this disease, which occurred in relatively small numbers to diarrhoeal diseases which occurred in large numbers and were attended by a high mortality. (Continued on Page 2.)

### TWELFTH DISTRICT SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CLUB DIES AFTER INTERESTING CAREER

On the eve of a national and state campaign the Twelfth District Independent Social and Political club, which had such an auspicious beginning and which at one time had a large membership, has given up the ghost. The few remaining members of the club met in the restaurant in the rear of Joseph Ciglar's saloon, Stratford and Seaview avenues, last Thursday night. There they partook of a shore dinner prepared and served by Billy Grimes. The dinner was paid for out of the proceeds of the carnival which the club recently held in the lot near the baseball park.

About 20 members of the club were present at the dinner. Treasurer Morris Winton announced that outside of the price of the dinner a few dollars were left in the treasury and he proceeded to distribute this money prize among the diners. Then, after Treasurer Winton had said a few more kind words to "the boys," President Fred Curtis pronounced the benediction and the Twelfth District Independent Social and Political club passed into history. Its end had long been expected and predicted by both Democratic and Republican leaders in the Twelfth. In fact, during the last two campaigns neither party has considered the club a force to be reckoned with.

The club was formed several years ago by dissatisfied Democrats and Re-

publicans when Fred Coderholm, the first Socialist official to be elected in Bridgeport, was chosen alderman of the district. The district leaders of both parties were blamed and discredited by large numbers of their followers and the proposal of an independent club found many supporters. The Miller brothers, John, David and Charles, from the inception of the club became powerful in it. They were past masters in the art of ward politics and during the time they were in control the club was a force in the community.

The club has spacious quarters in a remodeled moving picture theatre in Newfield avenue. There, one room was fitted up most elaborately as a barroom with a steward on duty all the time but mostly after hours nights and on Sundays. However, after a time dissension broke out and the members drifted away. More than a year ago the spacious club room was given up for cheaper quarters. The Brookside A. C. now has the building.

For several months the Independent Social and Political club passed into history. Its end had long been expected and predicted by both Democratic and Republican leaders in the Twelfth. In fact, during the last two campaigns neither party has considered the club a force to be reckoned with.

### FEARING POLIO, BANKS HERE TO FUMIGATE CASH

Officials to Confer on Feasibility of Plan Approved By Expert.

WILL BAR CHILDREN FROM JITNEY AUTOS

Cool Weather Brings Cessation of Plague's Ravages In Bridgeport.

Because of the danger, not only of infantile paralysis, but of all communicable diseases being transmitted by money, Bridgeport banks are likely soon to begin a system of daily fumigation of currency for the protection of the public, primarily, and the bank employees.

An official of a local bank has consulted with Dr. Sophian on the matter, and the latter agreed that cash is likely to be a transmitter of the disease germ. A conference will be held by representatives of the more important banks here, to discuss the feasibility of the fumigation plan.

Because of complaints to the health department of the likelihood that germs are transmitted by the mail from quarantined houses, Dr. Sophian proposes, with the consent of the persons quarantined, to collect all such mail and fumigate it at the health department rooms.

Dr. Sophian issued a warning to jitney drivers today that they must accept for transportation, no children under 10 years of age. "It is a hard matter to enforce this by supervising each jitney, but steps will be taken if the children are carried."

"We have designated the hours of greatest travel and hence, of the greatest danger," he said. "The jitneys should observe this rule as well as the trolley cars. The public should co-operate, as it is for their protection."

At the meeting of the board of education tonight, it is expected the board will approve Dr. Sophian's suggestion that the schools remain closed at least three weeks after the regular date of opening.

The health department records today showed that of 105 barber shops inspected, 31 came up to the department specifications. This is a 30 per cent improvement over the last report.

At a meeting of the health board, representatives of the private hospitals in Bridgeport and of the Bridgeport Medical society to the department specifications. This is a 30 per cent improvement over the last report.

It is planned to have the building somewhere on the outskirts of the city, but not on the town farm. This is objected to because of the proximity of the mounds of garbage and because of objections against the town farm as such.

Dr. Sophian proposes that the building have 100 beds, or thereabouts, with private rooms for those who can afford to pay. It will take a long time to get the building because of the necessity of visiting such hospitals and observing the best features of each, for incorporation into the one here.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon a meeting was held with the milk dealers. The fact that since July 28, none but pasteurized milk has been sold in Chicago, was cited.

One new case of poliomyelitis was on the health department records today, that of John Cumill of 611 South avenue. It was reported from Hillside home that Geraldine Kunkel of 147 Denver avenue, one of the victims, has a slight chance to live. The quarantine was lifted this morning at 304 Colorado avenue, the home of Harold Anderson, who died.

Stratford Has First Death of the Plague

After having been ill only 48 hours, Betty Madison, aged three, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Madison of Broadbridge road, Stratford, died last night of infant paralysis.

Dorothy Madison, aged two, has been ill of infantile paralysis about two weeks, is recovering.

The death is the first of poliomyelitis for Stratford.

Cool Weather Brings Some Relief in N. Y.

New York, Aug. 14.—The epidemic of infantile paralysis took a turn for the better today. The number of new cases of the disease reported to the health department went under the 100 mark for the first time in several weeks. During the 24 hours ending at 10 o'clock this morning the plague killed 31 children in the five boroughs of New York and 29 new cases were reported, 43 of them in Manhattan and 31 in Brooklyn. This compares favorably with yesterday's figures when there were 141 new cases discovered and 22 fatalities. The falling off in cases was attributed to the cooler weather recently.

The American Chemical Society will hold a series of meetings in New York from Sept. 25 to 28.

### GERMANS REGAIN TRENCHES TAKEN BY THE BRITISH

Sharp Attacks Give Them Possession of Lines Lost Near Pozieres.

ITALIANS PUSHING GREAT OFFENSIVE

Russian Sweep in East Continues Unabated—Three Ships Are Sunk.

London, Aug. 14.—Attacking British position near Pozieres, on the Somme front, the Germans last night gained a temporary footing in a portion of the trenches captured by us yesterday. Otherwise, there were no developments on the British front between the Somme and the Ancre.

Italians Push Forward

Rome, Aug. 14.—Italian troops continued yesterday pressing the Austrians back on the Carso plateau and east of Hill 212 pierced another strong line of hostile entrenchments. About 300 prisoners were captured by the Italians, says the official announcement of this operation.

French Take Trenches

Paris, Aug. 14.—The French troops captured some trenches on the left of the Fay-Denleourt road in the Somme sector, last night, says the war office announcement today. There gains have been made on the upper Maurepas. German attacks in the vicinity of Hill 304 and at Fleury (in the Verdun sector) were repulsed.

Russian Sweep Unchecked.

Petrograd, Aug. 14.—Along the Galician front, the Russian sweep continues unchecked, the official announcement of today states. Further gains have been made on the upper Sereth. In the region of the middle Stripa and the Korpocze the Austrians are being pursued by the Russians who reached the northern bank of the Delister before Mariampol.

Austrian Aeronauts in Raid.

Berlin, Aug. 14.—An Austro-Hungarian naval aeroplane squadron on the night of August 9, carried out the most successful bombardment upon a hostile battery at the mouth of the Isone and the hostile naval aeroplane station at Grado, says an Austrian admiralty statement today. Several exact hits were obtained. Our naval aeroplanes returned undamaged in spite of a violent shelling.

Three Ships Sunk.

London, Aug. 14.—Lloyds announced the sinking of the Italian steamship Nereus, the Italian sailing vessel Dina and the French sailing vessel Gaetan. The Nereus sailed from Newport News July 19 and passed Gibraltar, Aug. 7. She was built in 1901 and was of 3,980 tons gross.

Francis Slason, Once Merchant Here, Dies of An Apoplectic Attack

While shaving himself last night at his home, 120 Maple street, Francis Slason, who has been identified with the book and stationary business in this city for a great many years, was stricken with cerebral apoplexy and died before medical aid could reach him. Medical Examiner Garlick gave the cause of death as due to cerebral apoplexy.

Mr. Slason was born in Darton, 71 years ago. He came to Bridgeport when a young man and entered the employ of E. A. Lewis & Co.'s bookshop as a salesman. Later, when the business was located in Main street at the foot of John, he became a member of the firm and still later this became the Slason & Russell Co. This business was sold to Horace Jackson 21 years ago. Mr. Slason then became an agent for stationery at his home on Maple street. A number of years ago he was prominently identified with St. John's church. His wife died several years ago. He is survived by a niece, Mrs. John C. Chamberlain.

Unable To Fulfill Contract, Paper Co. Sued By Patron

Another evidence of the scarcity of paper was seen today when the St. George Paper & Pulp Co. of Norwalk was sued by the John T. Boyle Co. of New York for failure to keep the terms of a contract. It is claimed that the Norwalk concern agreed to furnish a certain quantity of paper but refused to deliver all of the shipment. Because of this action the Boyle Co. was compelled to buy paper in the open market, thereby suffering considerable financial loss. The action, which is returnable to the common pleas court, calls for \$2,500 damages.

MARRIAGE LICENSE.

Fred J. Chapman, 21, machinist, 61 Vine street, and Margaret Gaylord, 1, of the same address procured a license to marry at the town clerk's office today.

### DIES ON SUNDAY AS PROPHESED BY GYPSY SEER

Louis Donabella's "Fortune," Told Short Time Ago, Comes True

BROODED SEVERAL DAYS ON PROSPECT

Friends' Badgering Failed to Shake His Belief In Soothsayer

Fulfillment of the prophecies of a gypsy fortune teller is noted in the death of Louis Donabella, who succumbed yesterday morning while sitting at the breakfast table in the home of Dominica Crucia of 146 Linen avenue with whom he had been living for the last 18 months. Death was due to heart failure in the opinion of Medical Examiner S. M. Garlick but as to whether brooding over the fortune teller's opinion that he was to meet his end yesterday influenced his demise, the physician refused to comment.

According to Dr. Garlick, who conducted his autopsy on the death of Donabella, the latter, a man of 50 years, went to a fortune teller during the week and had his palm read. When he returned to his boarding house he appeared downcast and when he did not cheer up, the members of the Crucia family asked the reason for his dismal attitude. Believing that he had heard bad news of either of his two sons who are at the front with the Italian army, Crucia asked if anything had happened to them. Donabella stated that he had not heard from his offspring, so, at a loss to guess the cause of Donabella's moodiness, Crucia asked to be told what preyed so heavily on Donabella's mind.

In reply Donabella, Dr. Garlick said, told Crucia and his wife that he had paid a visit to the seer and was told that he was to die Sunday. The thought of sudden death when he was in the middle of his life, he said, preyed on his mind. Donabella stated, treating the gypsy's predictions with light heart, the members of the Crucia family bantered Donabella good naturedly about his approaching end but he remained morose and moody.

Yesterday morning, Donabella arose about 6 o'clock and an hour later sat down to the breakfast table with the Crucia family. He still grieved and though the members of the family tried to cheer him up, his manner did not change. Finally Crucia arose from the table, and he followed him to his room to prepare for church. Suddenly he heard his wife call to him, "Hurry, hurry, Dominick, Louis is dying." At the table Donabella had collapsed and fallen to the floor. His limp body was picked up and placed in a chair but when a physician was summoned, he found that life was extinct.

There were some indications that the President, recognizing that view of the President, a special arbitration before a board of 12 members on which the four brotherhoods could be represented.

The President's plan was to appeal to managers and men on the highest patriotic grounds to find a way to compose their differences without a strike. The President's conference with the men was opened with a statement by A. B. Garretson, of the conductors, as spokesman. He outlined the demands for an eight hour day and time and a half for overtime. He insisted that the demands were fair.

President Wilson then addressed the men, pointing out what disaster would follow a general strike and insisting that an agreement must be reached.

The President then asked to know what were the specific things on which the employees were prepared to insist. Mr. Garretson did most of the talking for the men and he and the President discussed the situation thoroughly. Mr. Wilson proceeded to make an effort to find a common ground on which the two sides could meet. He said he was anxious to settle the difficulty as quickly as possible and was prepared to remain in continuous conference all day if necessary.

After being with the President two hours, the representatives of the men left the White House and Mr. Garretson said they expected to see the President again later in the day after he had conferred with the managers. Mr. Garretson refused to say whether the outlook was hopeful.

"As long as the matter is in President Wilson's hands we will have no statement to make," said Mr. Garretson.

The President immediately sent for the railroad managers to lay before them the position of the workers. It was arranged that the managers should see the President at 3 o'clock this afternoon and that meanwhile the President would keep one or two other important engagements, including one with Mr. Chambers, of the Federal board.

The managers were at one hotel and the brotherhood at another while the federal mediators set about arranging the conference. It was decided that the President should see the contestants separately to get a clearer idea of their respective positions. The first development of the day was a declaration by A. B. Garretson, speaking for the brotherhoods, that the men were through with the prop-

Thirty-five Chiefs of Four Brotherhoods in Conference at White House Find That President Has Remarkable Grasp of Situation—Managers to Be Received by Chief Executive This Afternoon—Situation Brighter, Says Brotherhood Leader.

Washington, Aug. 14.—Prospects for averting a nation-wide railway strike or at least for the formulation of some tentative program which will be the groundwork for further negotiations brightened today after President Wilson had conferred with 35 chiefs of the great brotherhoods.

After the conference the brotherhood men declared the President's grasp of the situation and the position of the men might result in an understanding being reached and others in touch with the conference said the representatives of the men showed a disposition to co-operate to avoid a strike.

Leaders Find Encouragement

After hearing the leaders of the men two hours the President arranged for another meeting with them later in the afternoon. How far whatever progress made at the conference with the men can go toward averting a break cannot be determined until after the President's conference with the managers' committee.

One of the leaders of the four brotherhoods after leaving the White House, characterized the conference with the President as "most encouraging" and declared "The outlook for the prevention of a general strike was hopeful."

While the men were given, administration officials expressed confidence that the President's intervention would result in averting a strike.

The President, according to those who attended the conference, showed a familiarity with the situation that surprised the men.

"The President was most sympathetic," said one of the brotherhood leaders, "and his surprising knowledge of our position may result in an understanding being reached."

The President, it was said submitted no counter-proposition to the men, but he held out hope for an adjustment by legislation, if necessary. The impression prevailed among the brotherhood leaders that as a last resort the President might ask Congress for eight hour day legislation.

The leaders explained to the President their stand against arbitration by saying that they were carrying out the wishes of the 600 delegates who sat with them at their meeting with the federal mediators. The delegates, the President was told, in debating on whether they should accept or reject the mediators' proposal to arbitrate voted unanimously for rejection.

The brotherhood leaders presented to the President detailed reports of the vote cast in favor of a general strike. The brotherhood men went into a conference firm in their determination not to accept an arbitration under the Newlands act, which they contend has always furnished arbitrators before whom the men did not have an unprejudiced opportunity.

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### Strike Possibility Causes Tension in the Business World

New York, Aug. 14.—If President Wilson fails to persuade the railroad men and their employers to settle their differences and a general strike is called, it will be decided from headquarters in this city. The announcement was made today as the leaders of the four big railroad brotherhoods and railroad managers reached Washington for a conference with the head of the nation.

At brotherhood headquarters it was said that all preparations had been made for putting into effect a strike that would stop every train passenger and freight, on the 228 railway systems of the United States. The critical state of affairs was indicated by the anxiety displayed in every big industry which would be crippled by the failure of transportation.

Authorities here declared that while the national labor laws gave the President no right to interfere officially, the broad police powers invested in him gave him authority to put soldiers on the trains and even to declare martial law if he believed the peril of the situation called for such drastic measures. Attention was called to the last national railroad strike in 1894 when President Cleveland used the regular army to guard locomotives and cars. The tension in business circles here today showed a realization of the acute danger of a national calamity. It was to be remembered, businessmen said, that there is scarcely a factory or any important business which does not depend upon a railroad for its products.